

## SENATE BILL No. 539

---

### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 4-23-7.1-40.5; IC 8-1-2.8-11.

**Synopsis:** Accessible electronic information service. Requires the Talking Books and Braille division of the state library to work with the Library of Congress to provide information in an electronic format to blind and disabled persons. Creates the accessible electronic information service fund and requires that \$1,334 be transferred monthly to the fund from the surcharge on residential and business telephone lines to provide services to the hearing impaired. Appropriates money in the fund continually.

**Effective:** July 1, 2005.

---

---

**Young R Michael**

---

---

January 20, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on Homeland Security, Utilities, and Public Policy.

---

---

C  
o  
p  
y



Introduced

First Regular Session 114th General Assembly (2005)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2004 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 539

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state offices and administration and to make an appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 4-23-7.1-40.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
2 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: **Sec. 40.5 (a) For purposes of this**  
4 **section, "accessible electronic information service" means a service**  
5 **that provides to an eligible individual news and other timely**  
6 **information, including newspapers, from a multistate service**  
7 **center, using high speed computers and telecommunications**  
8 **technology for Internet acquisition of content and rapid**  
9 **distribution in a form appropriate for use by an eligible individual.**  
10 (b) For purposes of this section, "director" refers to the director  
11 of the Indiana talking books and braille division of the Indiana  
12 state library.  
13 (c) For purposes of this section, "eligible individual" means an  
14 individual who is blind or disabled and qualifies for services under  
15 36 CFR 701.10(b).  
16 (d) For purposes of this section, "fund" refers to the accessible  
17 electronic information service fund established by subsection (g).

2005

IN 539—LS 7851/DI 14+



C  
o  
p  
y

(e) For purposes of this section, "qualified entity" means an agency, instrumentality, or political subdivision of the state or a nonprofit organization that:

(1) using computer technology, produces audio or braille editions of daily news reports, including newspapers, for the purpose of providing eligible individuals with Internet access to news;

(2) obtains electronic news text through direct transfer arrangements made with participating news organizations and does not replicate electronic editions that are otherwise available on the Internet; and

(3) provides a means of program administration and reader registration on the Internet.

(f) The director shall enter into an agreement with a qualified entity to provide an accessible electronic information service for eligible individuals. This service shall be planned for continuation from year to year and make maximum use of federal and other funds available by:

(1) obtaining grants or in kind support from appropriate programs; and

(2) securing access to low cost interstate rates for telecommunications by reimbursement or otherwise.

(g) The accessible electronic information service fund is established to provide money to administer the accessible electronic information services program. The fund consists of money:

(1) transferred to the Indiana state library under IC 8-1-2.8-11(b);

(2) federal funds;

(3) grants, gifts, and bequests; and

(4) appropriations.

(h) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(i) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues from these investment shall be deposited in the fund.

(j) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

(k) Money in the fund is continually appropriated to the Indiana state library for its use in administering the accessible electronic information services program.

C  
o  
p  
y



1 SECTION 2. IC 8-1-2.8-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 11. (a) Beginning on  
3 June 1, 1991, the commission shall require each LEC to impose a  
4 monthly surcharge in the amount of five cents (\$0.05) on each  
5 residential and business line (or line equivalent) of its customers to  
6 fund and recover costs for developing and providing dual party relay  
7 services that may include in appropriate circumstances in the sole  
8 discretion of the InTRAC providing telecommunications devices to  
9 hearing impaired and speech impaired persons.

10 (b) Before the last business day of each month, the InTRAC  
11 shall transfer one thousand three hundred thirty-four dollars  
12 (\$1,334) collected under subsection (a) to the state library for the  
13 accessible electronic information service fund to be used to provide  
14 accessible electronic information services under IC 4-23-7.1-40.5.

C  
o  
p  
y

